REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 17, 19, 23, 25, 28, 31, 33, 37, and 39 are amended and claims 7, 26, and 34 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-6, 8-25, 27-33, and 35-39 are pending in this application.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5, 13-16, 25-27, 31-32, and 37-39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,838,313 to Hou et al. (hereinafter "Hou") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,081,829 to Sidana (hereinafter "Sidana"). Claim 26 has been canceled without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejection to claim 26 moot. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-5, 13-16, 25, 27, 31-32, and 37-39, as amended, are not obvious over Hou in view of Sidana.

Hou discloses a multimedia-based reporting system that allows drawing, text, and audio recording annotations to be added to the report (see, col. 2, lines 40-61, and col. 6, lines 52-66). The reporting system of Hou includes an annotation input interpreter that provides an interface between the user annotation input and three types of annotation handlers that can add annotations to a "canvas" of the report: a static annotation handler, a dynamic annotation handler, and an annotation on annotation handler (see, Fig. 9, and col. 6, lines 25-29). The reporting system of Hou also includes a mail report handler that allows the user to select a receiver's name and the report to be sent to the receiver via an e-mail system (see, col. 3, lines 8-13, and col. 4, lines 26-31). Hou further discloses that the annotation on annotation handler allows a user to select a desired segment of

an annotation and make a new annotation which is a reply to this selected segment (see, col. 9, lines 14-24).

Sidana is directed to general purpose web annotations without modifying the browser. In Sidana, a "redirector" is situated between a client browser and a server including a web document (see, Fig. 1). The redirector stores the user's annotations to the web document, so the next time the user's client browser requests the web document, the request is routed through the redirector which adds the user's previous annotations to create an augmented web document that is displayed to the user. Additionally, any URLs within the web document are modified by the redirector so that if the user selects one of the URLs the browser is routed to the redirector, which can then obtain the document corresponding to the selected URL and display to the user any of the user's previously entered annotations for that new document. See, col. 4, lines 57-67, and col. 1, line 55 – col. 2, line 32.

In contrast, amended **claim 1** includes:

> an annotation server, coupled to the client computer, to,
> maintain an annotation database having a plurality of annotations corresponding to the multimedia content,
> provide the plurality of annotations to the client computer for playback,
> send electronic mail messages including annotations to recipients identified by the client computer,
> generate new annotations based on electronic mail messages **received both in response to the sent electronic mail messages and not in response to the sent electronic mail messages**

See, emphasis added, lines 4-14. Applicant respectfully submits that Hou does not disclose or suggest generating new annotations based on electronic mail messages received both in response to the sent electronic mail messages and not in response

to the sent electronic mail messages as claimed in amended claim 1. As discussed above, Hou discloses sending a report including annotations to a receiver, and also discloses some ability to make a new annotation which is a reply to a selected segment of another annotation. However, Applicant respectfully submits that neither the sending of a report including an annotation nor the using of some reply ability to generate a new annotation discloses or suggests generating new annotations in two different ways: one in response to sent electronic mail messages and another not in response to sent electronic mail messages.

Sidana discloses sending an e-mail message if an expired document stored in its memory has been altered at its source, and also sending an e-mail message if any annotations are added to a particular document by others (see, col. 10, lines 26-45). However, Applicant respectfully submits that these e-mail messages to indicate that new annotations have been added or that changes in an expired document do not disclose or suggest generating new annotations based on electronic mail messages received both in response to the sent electronic mail messages and not in response to the sent electronic mail messages as claimed in amended claim 1.

Given that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests generating new annotations based on electronic mail messages received both in response to the sent electronic mail messages and not in response to the sent electronic mail messages as claimed in amended claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Hou and Sidana does not disclose or suggest generating new annotations based on electronic mail messages received both in response to the sent electronic mail messages and not in response to the sent electronic mail messages as claimed in amended claim 1. Thus, for at least these reasons,

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

With respect to **claim 2**, claim 2 depends from amended claim 1, and Applicant thus respectfully submits that claim 2 is allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with reference to amended claim 1. Furthermore, claim 2 includes "a media server to manage streaming the multimedia content to the client computer".

Sidana is cited as a server computer coupled to the client for streaming the multimedia to the client computer (see, July 27 Office Action at ¶3, p. 2). Applicant respectfully disagrees with this assertion. Sidana simply discloses HTML for a web document that can be transferred to a redirector for augmentation and transferred to a client web browser for display (see, col. 6, lines 33 – 67). Applicant respectfully submits that the mere disclosure of HTML for a web document does not disclose or suggest a media server streaming multimedia content to a client computer. Streaming refers to, for example, data representing various media types being provided over a network to a client computer on a real-time, as-needed basis, rather than being pre-delivered in its entirety before playback (see, for example, Applicant's specification at p. 2, lines 14-18). Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere in Hou or Sidana is streaming multimedia content to a client computer disclosed or suggested.

Thus, given that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests streaming multimedia content to a client computer as recited in claim 2, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Hou and Sidana does not disclose or suggest streaming multimedia content to a client computer as recited in claim 2.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 2 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

With respect to **claim 5**, amended claim 5 depends from amended claim 1, and Applicant thus respectfully submits that amended claim 5 is allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with reference to claim 1. Furthermore, amended claim 5 includes:

> wherein the client computer is further to transmit, to the media server, **an identifier of a temporal segment of the multimedia content that is after the beginning of the multimedia content**, and wherein the media server is to **stream to the client computer the multimedia content beginning with the identified temporal segment**.

See, emphasis added, lines 1-5. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests multimedia content being streamed to the client computer beginning with an identified temporal segment. Hou discloses the mail report handler sending a report including annotations to the receiver. Thus, there is nothing to be streamed to the receiver (he or she already has the report as part of the message), much less any concept of beginning the streaming with a particular identified segment that is after the beginning of the multimedia content as claimed in amended claim 5. Sidana, on the other hand, discloses the user receiving, as the augmented document, annotations from the redirector along with the requested web document. Again, there is nothing being streamed to the user in Sidana, much less beginning the streaming with a particular identified segment that is after the beginning of the multimedia content as claimed in amended claim 5.

Thus, given that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests beginning streaming of multimedia content beginning with an identified temporal segment that is after the beginning of the multimedia content as recited in claim 5,

Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Hou and Sidana does not disclose or suggest beginning streaming of multimedia content beginning with an identified temporal segment that is after the beginning of the multimedia content as recited in claim 5. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

With respect to **claim 13**, amended claim 13 includes,

> generating an electronic mail message including,
> > the content of the new annotation,
> > an identifier of the media content, and
> > **an installation option that identifies an installation program that can be used to install one or more modules allowing the content and corresponding media content to be rendered**; and

See, emphasis added, lines 4-9. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests including, in an electronic mail message, the content of a new annotation and an installation option that identifies an installation program that can be used to install one or more modules allowing the content of the new annotation and corresponding media content to be rendered as claimed in amended claim 13. Although e-mail messages are discussed in both Hou and Sidana, Applicant respectfully submits that the mere mention of e-mail messages does not disclose or suggest an installation option included in an electronic mail message as claimed in amended claim 13. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 13 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

With respect to **claim 25**, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 5, neither Hou nor Sidana, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests an identifier of a location of media content that is after the beginning of the media content and is where

rendering of the media content should begin in response to selection of the identifier of the media content in the electronic mail message as claimed in amended claim 25. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 25 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

With respect to **claim 28**, amended claim 28 depends from amended claim 25, and Applicant thus respectfully submits that amended claim 28 is allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 25. Furthermore, amended claim 28 includes:

> wherein the electronic mail message further includes an identifier of
> **one or more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to**
> **categories for annotations, that the new annotation is associated**
> **with**.

See, emphasis added, lines 1-4. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests an identifier of one or more annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations, that a new annotation is associated with as claimed in amended claim 28. Hou discloses an "annotation on annotation" that allows a user to select a desired segment of an annotation and make a new annotation which is a reply to this selected segment. Such an "annotation on annotation" merely allows one annotation to annotate another, not identify a category (or categories) that the annotation corresponds to. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Hou does not disclose or suggest an identifier of one or more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations, that a new annotation is associated with as claimed in amended claim 28.

Sidana is not cited as disclosing an identifier of one or more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations, that a new

annotation is associated with as claimed in amended 28, and Applicant respectfully submits that Sidana does not disclose or suggest an identifier of one or more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations, that a new annotation is associated with as claimed in amended claim 28. Thus, given that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests an identifier of one or more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations, that a new annotation is associated with, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Hou and Sidana does not disclose or suggest an identifier of one or more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations, that a new annotation is associated with as claimed in amended claim 28. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 28 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

With respect to **claim 31**, amended claim 31 includes:

> receiving an electronic mail notification of an annotation corresponding to media content;
> replying to the electronic mail notification to generate a new annotation corresponding to the media content;
> including, in the reply, **an identifier of one or more annotation sets that the new annotation is associated with**; and
> displaying **a default recipient, corresponding to the identified one or more annotation sets, that is to receive an electronic mail notification of the new annotation**.

See, emphasis added, lines 2-10. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests a default recipient corresponding to the identified one or more annotation sets that is to receive an electronic mail notification of the new annotation as claimed in amended claim 31. Hou and Sidana, as discussed above, both reference simply e-mail recipients. Applicant respectfully submits that the mere mention of an e-mail recipient does not disclose or suggest a default

recipient corresponding to the identified one or more annotation sets that are to receive an electronic mail notification of the new annotation as claimed in amended claim 31. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 31 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

With respect to **claim 37**, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the discussion above regarding claim 1, neither Hou nor Sidana, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests extracting both annotation content and annotation identification information from a received electronic mail message that is not in reply to a previous electronic mail message as claimed in amended claim 37. Hou discloses sending a report including an annotation to a receiver, or using some reply ability to generate a new annotation, not extracting both annotation content and annotation identification information <u>from an electronic mail message that is not in reply to a previous electronic mail message</u> as claimed in amended claim 37. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 37 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

With respect to **claim 39**, amended claim 39 depends from amended claim 37, and Applicant thus respectfully submits that amended claim 39 is allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 37. Furthermore, amended claim 39 includes:

> **an identifier of an annotation set** that a new annotation
> including the extracted annotation content is to be part of, wherein
> the annotation set is one of one or more annotation sets
> corresponding to categories for annotations.

See, emphasis added, lines 7-9. Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 28, the cited references do not disclose or suggest an email message including an identifier of an annotation set

that a new annotation including the extracted annotation content is to be part of as claimed in amended claim 39. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 39 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

With respect to **claims 3-4, 14-16, 26-27, 29-30, 32, and 38**, given that claims 3-4 depend from amended claim 1, claims 14-16 depend from amended claim 13, claims 26-27 and 29-30 depend from amended claim 25, claim 32 depends from amended claim 31, and claim 38 depend from amended claim 37, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3-4, 14-16, 26-27, 29-30, 32, and 38 are likewise allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to their corresponding independent claims.

Claims 6-12, 17-24, and 33-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Hou in view of Sidana and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,923,848 to Goodhand et al. (hereinafter "Goodhand"). Claims 7 and 34 have been canceled without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejection to claims 7 and 34 moot. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6, 8-12, 17-24, 33, and 35-36 , as amended, are not obvious over Hou in view of Sidana and Goodhand.

With respect to **claim 6**, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 37, neither Hou nor Sidana, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests a method including communicating, as an electronic mail message that is not in reply to another electronic mail message, the new annotation to an annotation server as claimed in amended claim 6. Goodhand is cited as disclosing a field via which the user can identify a recipient that is to receive an electronic mail message and notification comprising a new annotation (see, July 27 Office Action, ¶ 4, p. 4). Applicant

respectfully submits that Goodhand is not cited as disclosing, and does not disclose, communicating, as an electronic mail message that is not in reply to another electronic mail message, the new annotation to an annotation server as claimed in amended claim 6. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Hou, Sidana, and Goodhand does not disclose or suggest communicating, as an electronic mail message that is not in reply to another electronic mail message, the new annotation to an annotation server as claimed in amended claim 6. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana and Goodhand.

With respect to **claim 17**, amended claim 17 includes:

> receiving an electronic mail notification of a new annotation corresponding to media content, the new annotation corresponding to one of a plurality of temporal segments after the beginning of the media content;
> presenting the electronic mail notification to a user;
> receiving a user input to access the media content; and
> accessing, upon receiving the user input, a media server to stream, for **rendering to the user, the media content beginning with the one of the plurality of segments that corresponds to the new annotation**.

See, emphasis added, lines 2-9. Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 5, neither Hou nor Sidana, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests streaming media content beginning with the one of the plurality of segments that corresponds to a new annotation. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no disclosure or suggestion in either Hou or Sidana of displaying any content anywhere other than at the beginning. Applicant respectfully submits that Goodhand is not cited as disclosing, and does not disclose, streaming media content beginning with the one

of the plurality of segments that corresponds to a new annotation as claimed in amended claim 17. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Hou, Sidana, and Goodhand does not disclose or suggest streaming media content beginning with the one of the plurality of segments that corresponds to a new annotation as claimed in amended claim 17. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana and Goodhand.

With respect to **claim 19**, amended claim 19 depends from amended claim 17, and Applicant thus respectfully submits that amended claim 19 is allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 17. Furthermore, amended claim 19 includes:

> **an annotation set identifier** that identifies one or more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations, that the new annotation is part of.

See, emphasis added, lines 10-12. Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 28, the cited references do not disclose or suggest an annotation set identifier that identifies one or more annotation sets that the new annotation is part of as claimed in amended claim 19. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 19 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana and Goodhand.

With respect to **claim 23**, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 17, Hou, Sidana, and Goodhand, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest accessing, upon receiving the user selection, a media server indicated by the identifier to begin, at a point in the media content after the beginning of the media content and

corresponding to the new annotation, streaming the media content for presentation to the user as claimed in amended claim 23. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 23 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana and Goodhand.

With respect to **claim 33**, amended claim 33 includes:

> receiving an electronic mail thread including a plurality of electronic mail messages;
> **creating a plurality of annotations** from the plurality of electronic mail messages in the electronic mail thread; and
> **adding the plurality of annotations to an annotation database**.

See, emphasis added, lines 2-6. Thus, in the method of amended claim 33, a plurality of annotations are created from the plurality of electronic mail messages in the single electronic mail thread and added to an annotation database. Although Hou and Sidana discuss annotations, Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere in those discussions is there a disclosure or suggestion to create <u>multiple annotations from a single electronic mail thread</u> as claimed in amended claim 33.

Applicant respectfully submits that Goodhand is not cited as disclosing, and furthermore does not disclose, creating multiple annotations from a single electronic mail thread as claimed in amended claim 33. Thus, given that none of Hou, Sidana, or Goodhand discloses creating multiple annotations from a single electronic mail thread as claimed in amended claim 33, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Hou, Sidana, and Goodhand does not disclose or suggest creating multiple annotations from a single electronic mail thread as claimed in amended claim 33. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 33 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana and Goodhand.

With respect to **claims 8-12, 18, 20-22, 24, and 35-36**, given that claims 8-12 depend from amended claim 6, claims 18 and 20-22 depend from amended claim 17, claim 24 depends from amended claim 23, and claims 35-36 depend from amended claim 33, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8-12, 18, 22, 24, and 35-36 are likewise allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to their corresponding independent claims.
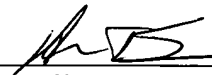
Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Claims 1-6, 8-25, 27-33, and 35-39 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: Oct. 25, 2000

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